



**American Society for Investigative Pathology**

*Investigating the Pathogenesis of Disease*

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## **Charles A. Parkos, MD, PhD, Receives the 2015 ASIP Rous-Whipple Award**



**Dr. Charles Parkos**, Chair of Pathology at the University of Michigan, is the 2015 recipient of the ASIP Rous-Whipple award, which is presented to a senior scientist with a distinguished career in research who has advanced the understanding of disease and continued productivity at the time of this award.

Dr. Parkos has established “an internationally recognized research program that has transformed the study of Inflammatory Bowel Disease” according to Dr. Sean Colgan from the University of Colorado. Dr. Colgan goes on to explain that before Dr. Parkos’ involvement in the area, “essentially nothing was known about mechanisms of neutrophil migration into and across mucosal epithelia.” Because of Dr. Parkos’ new models and emphasis on protein biochemistry, “today we have a clear and precise understanding of how neutrophils and other leukocyte populations find, adhere, and migrate through the epithelium.” Because of these contributions by Dr. Parkos, “these approaches have revolutionized how we study cell-cell interactions and his innovative models for studying neutrophil transigrations are used throughout the world.”

Dr. Charles Serhan of Harvard Medical School highlights Dr. Parkos’ high productivity. He has contributed more than 100 publications in highly regarded, peer-reviewed journals. Dr. Parkos is intensely dedicated to basic research. He continues to develop “novel research directions” and carry out “outstanding investigations,” according to Dr. Serhan. Dr. Parkos’ current research focus on revealing the role of CD47 will “no doubt lead to further work in the near future that shall elucidate fundamental components essential in the transmigration of neutrophils, which is an area of intense interest in the post-genomic era.”

Dr. James Madara of the American Medical Association praises Dr. Parkos on his incredibly successful track record of NIH funding. Dr. Madara comments that Dr. Parkos has been awarded “at least two to three RO1 grants for the past 15 years.” Dr. Parkos has been invited to many national and international meetings and has served on “many grant review committees for both private research foundations and NIH.” Continuing his devotion to mentorship throughout his career, Dr. Parkos has committed himself to the teaching of academic pathology and graduate research. Dr. Madara adds that “Dr. Parkos plays a highly active role in the teaching and mentoring of physician-scientists.”

Dr. Mark Sobel, ASIP's Executive Officer, points out that "during the phase of Dr. Parkos' highest productivity, he was also devoting substantial time to ASIP as Senior Associate Editor of *The American Journal of Pathology* and on the ASIP Council, serving as President of ASIP from 2010-2011, proving that highly effective scientists can succeed in providing public service in addition to their research. "

Dr. Parkos received his MD and PhD from the University of California at San Diego and completed residency and fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts.

Dr. Parkos presented his award lecture, "Leukocyte-epithelial interactions: a double-edged sword," on Sunday, March 29, 2015 at the ASIP 2015 Annual Meeting at Experimental Biology in Boston, Massachusetts. He received the Rous-Whipple Award on Monday, March 30, 2015 during the ASP Membership Business Meeting and Awards Presentation.